

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Published every evening, Sunday excepted, by the Tonopah Bonanza Printing Co., Incorporated.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS MEMBER NEVADA PRESS ASS'N

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Terms of Subscription by Mail for Daily Bonanza:

One Year	\$12.00	One Week	30
Six Months	7.00	One Month	1.00
Three Months	4.00	Three Months	3.00

Delivered by Carrier, \$1.25 per Month

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Entered at the postoffice in Tonopah as second class matter.

DEATH OF SENATOR STEWART

ANNOUNCEMENT this morning of the death of Senator A. Wesley Stewart, junior at Tonopah and a constructive statesman of the highest quality, came like a shock to even those who knew him casually for his name was always associated throughout southern Nevada with the highest aims of life. Coming here in the early days when the standard of life was manifold and integrity Senator Stewart grew in the affections of the people who invariably looked to him whenever anything great or good was to be accomplished. It is such a brief time since he was seen walking in our midst that it is almost impossible to grasp the fact that he will not be seen here any more and that a full stop has been called to a career filled with resources which were constantly drawn upon for the development of Tonopah in particular and Nevada in general. His versatility was evidenced by his business engagements which included almost every line of material development from mining to farming and stock raising. In all lines of endeavor he was a success and had his life been extended a few years longer his adopted state would have been the beneficiary.

DEMOCRATIC DESTRUCTION

As a sample of how the administration policy of reconstruction works out in practice the case of Ely, Nevada's greatest copper camp is submitted as proof of the folly of leaving things alone and letting reconstruction work out its own salvation. Two months ago Ely ranked as one of the most prosperous mining centers on the continent with the largest payroll in the state. The copper industry flourished during the war and, when the armistice was signed, the bottom dropped out for the simple reason that the administration was too much concerned with the affairs of its kitchen cabinet to pay more attention to the urging of Republicans in congress that something should be done in preparation for peace that an industrial upheaval might not dislocate our own internal affairs. The only rejoinder to these expostulations was that "reconstruction will take care of itself." So it is. With a vengeance the period of reconstruction has overtaken the country with the crash of a thunderbolt and the destruction of lightning. At one swoop the copper industry of Nevada is hit in a vital point and reports state that 2000 men have been deprived of a livelihood for the simple reason that the party in power trusted to luck. The disaster was forecast by every evidence of steady accumulation until the portents could no longer be ignored by men of constructive genius who knew that the country was to be confronted with a crisis at an early day. It was like the mariner in charge of a ship sailing under sunny skies who neglects the falling barometer and smilingly carries all the sail that his vessel, an stagger under until the skies are rent asunder with the fury of the storm and the ship is either scuttled or left a helpless wreck at the mercy of the tempest. The demand for copper has come to a temporary halt through inability of ravaged Europe to estimate her losses and formulate plans for the future. In this interregnum there is a cessation of all foreign demand for the red metal which must remain torpid until a readjustment of world's affairs succeeds the deliberations of the peace congress. Some action should have been taken to forestall this dormant period. The best plan suggested was for the government to take care of a certain amount of the copper production by arranging to hold it in reserve and issue warehouse receipts which would be negotiable in the open market. This is what the government is doing for the farmers although it is conceded that the system will entail a financial loss to the nation for the time being until the export demand is revived and stocks of copper begin to move to the regenerated factories of France, Italy and England but it would have been better to accept such a loss rather than precipitate an industrial panic in the communities that are wholly dependent on that metal for their livelihood.

A MODERN UTOPIA

DISPATCHES from Carson City are brimful of suggestions for making Nevada safe for the man who foots the taxes. Governor Boyle and the attorney general are vying one with the other in offering suggestions for retrenchment but, unfortunately, none of these bear the mark of practical business. They go to show how easy it is, on paper, to run a commonwealth with the lowest possible per capita expenditure of money which is a very desirable condition. The trouble is that, when it comes to the test, there will be some difficulty in arriving at a mathematical adjustment of service and costs are not gauged by the old formula which causes two and two to make four. The governor in his placid way would have several bureaus of volunteer officials do the work which now is entrusted to numerous boards drawing salaries of from \$3000 to \$5000 per commissioner per annum. The suggestion is a good one, providing Mr. Boyle can only succeed in finding somebody capable and competent who is willing to work for the glory of helping his wildly extravagant administration out of a tight fix. That is all. If the governor finds anybody willing to assume these jobs for the mere honor he should have acted before and saved the state from its boards which are so numerous that they are clamoring for a building of their own to enable them to stretch their legs under public mahogany and indulge in midday siestas in secluded private offices where they would not be disturbed by the clamor of public business. It may call for a lively imagination to picture this Utopian state of affairs but the governor offers the suggestion with an offhand abandon as though all that were needed was the legislature to touch the springs and bring the new order of affairs into action. The attorney general is almost as practical when he urges a revision of the constitution that would do away with the upper house and establish a one house form of government. As a beginning for his reforms the attorney general would give the justice of the supreme court lifetime jobs subject to recall. While we all recognize the necessity for the judiciary to

be free from partisan politics it does not necessarily follow that any candidate whose lucky star should land him on the supreme bench is fully qualified for the eminent office he holds or that the people should permit him to remain in ermine for the rest of his natural days. The temptation is too great. Possibly the system would bring us a more independent and impartial judiciary but it would be hard to convince the electors that anything is to be gained by such a revolutionary change.

If there is to be any retrenchment in Nevada it can come from a business survey of the situation and by eliminating the luxuries which have been piled on our administration of the laws until the whole machine is top heavy. Every man in office is only too willing to perpetuate his job and there are too many sinces now to begin at the bottom. The way to go about this is the way the average business man has to go when he finds an aching void between his receipts and expenses. He begins trimming by gradually removing the help that can be most readily dispensed with and distributing their functions among others whose time is not fully occupied.

If the Nevada Historical Society is anxious to preserve a picture of Jim Butler and his burro as a souvenir of the early days of Tonopah the Bonanza respectfully suggests that a painting of some credit to the state and faithfully representative of the great prospector be secured. This camp will guarantee the fund for a real oil painting to replace the one from "an unknown artist" which has been added to the collection of the historical society. This is no time for indulging in grotesque fancies when there remains an opportunity for immortalizing the founder of Tonopah instead of submitting to a painting when we are gravely told that "the painting flatters neither Jim Butler nor the burro." There is no palliation for such an atrocity.

It's a waste of labor to shave an ass in dealing with the morning contemptible but it may be said with just pride that before the bearded wrangler of that paper got rid of his diapers the editor of the Bonanza was busy organizing the first school of Tonopah and that the present superiority of the Tonopah school system is due largely to his personal efforts for thirteen years.

With eight saddles for every horse in the army stored away in warehouses without any prospective demand for war purposes it is obvious why shoe wear should reach prohibitory prices and private consumers have to get along with substitute leather-soles.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS CHARGES

By Associated Press

LONDON, Jan. 7.—Charges brought by the British government that the former Swedish government, or Lieutenant Colonel Wikland of the Swedish army, had allowed their names to be used as consignees for wool purchased with German money, have been dropped and several cases in the prize court involving \$2,500,000 in wool seized by the British navy have been settled.

Sir John Simon, appearing for the claimants, protested against the government's allegations. He called attention to statements made in the house of commons that Sweden was sending raw wool to Germany to be spun and returned for use of the Swedish army, and declared that there was no foundation for the

charge that the Swedish government had been guilty of a violation of neutrality.

The terms of settlement were not given out. Sir John Simon told the court it "will leave no soreness on either side and will express the friendly feeling which has in the past history of the two countries existed, and which both the Swedish and British governments desire to continue between these two great independent states."

British Secret Service Show Pre-War Facts

(Correspondence Associated Press)

LONDON, Dec. 7.—Secrets of the war work of the British secret service now revealed show that German spies or agents of the German government were making active preparations, even before the beginning of hostilities, to use the Isle of Wight as a landing place for German forces and for the bombardment of Portsmouth. One of the first precautions taken in August, 1914, was to place close restrictions on persons trying to land upon or leave the island. From Harwich to Hampshire, along the south and southeast coasts of England, nests of German spies and agents were engaged in desperate missions in the early days of the war. One of the urgent tasks of the British secret service was to stamp out the operations of these men.

For a long time the authorities were unable to discover the origin of Morse signals that were being flashed out to German submarines from the sea front at Pevensey. Special watch was kept on a certain cottage and, although no lights were shown, the patient observers finally solved the mystery. They learned that after dusk several persons near an upper window manipulated what appeared to be the dial of an ordinary clock. A raid on the cottage disclosed that the clock dial was fitted with a dark prism. By focusing the prism on the strong headlight of a fishing smack anchored off shore it was possible to send forth signal flashes. These flashes were not visible to a person standing on the beach, but out in the channel they could be read easily.

Between the coast and Tunbridge Wells, which was the headquarters of a British army corps, a band of spies made the round of villages undisturbed until an officer made the significant discovery that none of them could converse in Roman; the gypsy tongue. Investigation by secret service men proved conclusively that the masqueraders while pretending to trade with the country folk and tell fortunes secured information as to the movements of troops in the southern command. Prompt and drastic action followed these revelations.

At the beginning of the war numerous instances came to light of aliens attempting to enlist under false pretenses. If the recruiting officers were dissatisfied with a man's appearance or accent, he was taken aside and the oath was administered to him separately. It is practically

impossible for a foreigner to repeat the unusual phrasing of the oath without betraying his origin, and in that way many dangerous spies were captured.

About Christmas, 1914, a foreign diplomat in London received an anonymous gift of pate de foie gras.

Suspicion was aroused and analysis showed the presence of a deadly poison. Secret service agents were called in and they proceeded to work on the theory that the pate de foie gras had come from one of three aliens then under surveillance. Accordingly, to each of them was sent anonymously a can of foie gras exactly similar in appearance to the can containing the poisoned stuff.

The landlady of one of the trio opened and served it for his supper, and it was not until late in the evening that she told him that the can had been addressed to him. Thinking that he had eaten his own poison, the man actually became ill. He was promptly arrested.

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